IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)
)) Group Art Unit: 1619
) Examiner: FOLEY, Shanon A.
)) Confirmation No.: 7840
)))
VIA EFS-WEB

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

In reply to the Final Office Action dated May 22, 2009, and further to the Notice of Appeal filed November 20, 2009, the statutory date having been extended two months to March 20, 2010, by the accompanying petition and fee, Applicants respectfully request continued examination and reconsideration of this application in view of the following amendments and remarks. This paper fulfills the requirements of a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and is filed together with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment section of this paper.